

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed May 21, 2007 (hereinafter "Office Action"), claims 1, 18, 21, 36, 42, 44 and 45-52 have been amended. Claims 53-57 have been newly added. No claims have been cancelled. Applicant notes that a claim 50 was inadvertently omitted from the original claim numbering. Therefore, claims 1-49 and 51-57 remain pending. Support for the instant amendments is provided throughout the as-filed Specification. Thus, no new matter has been added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following comments, allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

Claims Objections

The claims were objected to because there was no claim 50. Claims 46, 47, 49, 51 and 52 were objected to be because claim 46 depended from itself. Applicant notes that a claim 50 was inadvertently omitted from the original claim numbering. As such, Applicant has indicated a claim 50 with the status identifier of "Omitted." Further, Applicant has amended claims 46, 47, 49, 51 and 52 to depend, respectively from claim 45, as suggested by the Examiner.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the claim objections should be withdrawn.

Prior Art Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102-103

Claims 1-13, 16-27, 30-34, 36-41, 43, 45-47, 49, 51 and 52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0078424 to Yairi et al ("Yairi"). Claims 14, 15, 28, 29, 35, 42, 44 and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yairi in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0105884 to Upton ("Upton").

Applicant disagrees with the propriety of these rejections. However, independent claims 1, 21, 36 and 45 have been amended solely in an effort to expedite prosecution.

For example, independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, the feature(s) of:

wherein information received from the web service in response to the user command may be transmitted to at least one other user.

Independent claim 21 recites, *inter alia*, the feature(s) of:
wherein information received from the web service in response to the user command
may be transmitted to at least one other user.

Independent claim 36 recites, *inter alia*, the feature(s) of:
wherein information received from the web service in response to the instant
messaging message may be transmitted to at least one other user.

Independent claim 45 recites, *inter alia*, the feature(s) of:
wherein information received from the web service in response to the user command
may be transmitted to at least one other instant messaging client.

Yairi fails to disclose *at least* the foregoing features. For example, Yairi makes no mention or suggestion as to whether information received from the web service broker module 105 in response to a IM user command from one user (e.g., IM client 113) may be transmitted to at least one other user (e.g., IM clients 115 and/or 117).

For at least the foregoing reasons, the rejection of independent claims 1, 21, 36 and 45 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) based on Yairi is improper, and should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 2-20, 22-35, 37-45, 46-49 and 51-52 are allowable because they depend from the allowable independent claims, as well as for the further features they recite. Similarly, new claims 53-57 are allowable because they depend from the allowable independent claims, as well as for the further features they recite.

Conclusion

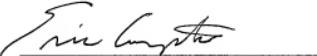
Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

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Respectfully submitted,

By:


Eric B. Compton
Registration No. 54,806

Customer No. 00909

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, Virginia 22102
Direct Dial: 703-770-7721
Main: 703-770-7900
Fax: 703-770-7901